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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A disposal and provisioning system, comprising:

a waste disposal unit, the waste disposal unit including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items deposited in the waste disposal unit;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network; and

a remote processing system configured to be coupled to the waste disposal unit via the network, the remote processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the waste disposal unit, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

a first instruction configured to receive scanned information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

a fourth instruction configured to locate replacement options for the sample;

a fifth instruction configured to transmit the replacement options to the waste disposal unit;

a sixth instruction configured to receive from the waste disposal unit an option selection by the user.

2. (Previously presented) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured to receive at least one of an indication via the waste disposal unit as to why the user does not want to order a replacement for the sample, or an indication via the waste disposal unit that the user wants to order a replacement for the sample.

3. (Previously presented) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured to provide the user with selectable reasons for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample.

4. (Previously presented) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising:

a seventh instruction configured to receive a reason for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample; and

an eighth instruction configured to provide the reason to at least one of a manufacturer, retailer, distributor, marketing entity, or an advertiser.

5. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured cause a non-sample replacement for the sample to be delivered to the user.

6. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a touch screen unit configured to display information to the user and to receive user inputs.

7. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a presence detection circuit that activates the scanner in response to detecting the presence of an object.

8. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a detachable display and user input apparatus coupled via a wireless network.

9. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit is configured to request a user password before performing a scan.

10. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the scanner is one of a barcode scanner and a radio frequency scanner.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a ~~first~~ user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving from a networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first item package disposed of by the user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the discard information;

receiving from a the networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first sample item package disposed of by the user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the user;

receiving an indication from the user that the user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

requesting that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

14. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 13, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

15. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 14, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the user does not use the first sample item-type;

the user used the first sample item but did not like it; and

the user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

16. (Previously presented) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving user specified sample preferences from a first user over a network;

storing the preferences in a database;

causing a first sample that satisfies the user specified sample preferences to be delivered to the first user;

receiving coupon information via a waste disposal unit; and

causing an item corresponding to the coupon to be delivered to the first user.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising receiving an indication that the first sample has been used from a waste disposal unit.

19. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising:

receiving an indication that at least packaging for the first sample has been deposited in a disposal unit;

causing a query to be presented via the disposal unit to the first user in order to determine if the first user wants to order a non-sample version of the first sample; and

receiving a response to the query.

20. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 19, further comprising causing at least one query to be presented to the first user in order to determine at least one of a size or a quantity of the non-sample version that the first user wants.

21. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising receiving information scanned from the first sample by the first user using a scanner coupled to a waste disposal unit.

22. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising:

receiving demographic information and sample preferences associated with a second user; and

causing samples that correspond to the user sample preferences and demographics to be delivered to the second user.

23. (Previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising determining at least one of a percent or a number of users that ordered a non-sample version of the first sample after receiving a sample of the product.

24. (Previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising determining at least one of a percent or a number of users that disposed of the first sample and did not order a non-sample version.

25. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving user specified sample preferences from a first user over a network;

storing the preferences in a database;

causing a first sample that satisfies the user specified sample preferences to be delivered to the first user;

receiving an indication that at least packaging for the first sample has been deposited in a disposal unit;

causing a query to be presented to the first user in order to determine if the first user wants to order a non-sample version of the first sample;

receiving a negative response to the query;

causing a query to be presented to the first user in order to determine why first the first user did not want to order a non-sample version of the first sample;

receiving a response from the first user including at least a first reason from the first user indicating why ~~first~~ the first user did not want to order a non-sample version of the first sample; and

providing information related to the response to at least one of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample; and

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to locate replacement options for the first item;

a fifth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to transmit the replacement options to the first waste disposal unit; and

a sixth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive from the waste disposal unit an option selection by the user.

28. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit as to why the user does not want to order a non-sample version for the first item, or an indication via the waste disposal unit that the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item.

29. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory that causes selectable reasons for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item to be presented to the user via the waste disposal unit.

30. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample; and

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to process a reason for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item; and

an fifth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to provide the reason to at least one of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

31. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

a fourth instruction configured cause a non-sample replacement for the first item to be delivered to the user.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a ~~first~~ user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving from a networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first item package disposed of by the user; and

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the discard information;

receiving from a the networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first sample item package disposed of by the user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the user;

receiving an indication from the user that the user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

requesting that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

35. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 34, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

36. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 35, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the user does not use the first sample item-type;

the user used the first sample item but did not like it; and

the user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

37. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

a presence detection circuit that activates the scanner in response to detecting the presence of an object; and

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user.

38. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, the remote processing system further comprising an instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the scanning system as to why the user does not want to order a replacement for the sample, or an indication via the scanning system that the user wants to order a replacement for the sample.

39. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user; and

the instructions further configured to provide the user with selectable reasons for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample.

40. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;

the instructions further configured to:

receive a reason for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample, and

provide the reason to one or more of a manufacturer, retailer, distributor, marketing entity, or an advertiser.

41. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, the instructions further configured to cause a non-sample replacement for the sample to be delivered to the user.

42. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, wherein the scanning system further comprises a touch screen unit configured to display information to the user and to receive user inputs.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user; and

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;

wherein the scanning system further comprises a detachable display and user input apparatus coupled to the processor via a wireless network.

45. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user; and

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;

wherein the scanning system is configured to request a user password before performing a scan.

46. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, wherein the scanner includes at least one of a barcode scanner or a radio frequency scanner.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user;

causing a first sample to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information related to a first sample item package scanned by the first user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display; and

receiving over the network an order from the first user for the non-sample version of the first sample item.

49. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information related to a first sample item package scanned by the first user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display; and

receiving over the network an indication from the first user that the first user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

transmitting over the network a request to the first user that the first user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

50. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user;

causing a first sample to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information; and

presenting to the first user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

51. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 50, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the first user does not use the first sample item-type;

the first user used the first sample item but did not like it; and

the first user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and

a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

receive information scanned from a bill by the scanner;

receive an instruction from the user regarding paying the bill; and

cause the bill to be paid.

54. (Previously presented) The data processing and provisioning system as defined in Claim 53, wherein the instructions are further configured to:

locate replacement options for the first item;

transmit the replacement options to a user accessible display, and

receive a replacement option selection by the user.

55. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and

a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

receive an indication as to why the user does not want to order a non-sample version for the first item, or an indication that the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item.

56. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and

a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

cause selectable reasons for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item to be presented to the user.

57. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and

a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

process a reason for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item, and provide the reason to one or more of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

58. (Previously presented) The data processing and provisioning system as defined in Claim 53, wherein the instructions are further configured to cause a non-sample replacement for the first item to be delivered to the user.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 65, further comprising:

receiving scanned information related to at least a ~~first~~ sample ~~item~~ package;

causing an order form for a regular version of the ~~first~~ sample ~~item~~ to be presented to the user on a display based at least in part on the scanned information; and

receiving over the network an order from the user for the non-sample version of the ~~item~~ sample.

61. (Currently amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving over the network identification information related to at least a first item package scanned by the first user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving scanned information related to at least a first sample item package;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display based at least in part on the scanned information;

receiving an indication from the first user that the first user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

transmitting over the network a request that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

62. (Previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 62, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

63. (Currently amended) The method as defined in Claim 62, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the first user does not use the first sample item-type;

the first user used the first sample item but did not like it;

the first user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Previously presented) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving over the network identification information related to at least a first item package scanned by the user;

causing a first sample to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information scanned from a bill by the user;

receiving and instruction from the user regarding paying the bill; and

causing the bill to be paid.